

Bradford and Melksham Rural  
District Council

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THE  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

*Medical Officer of Health*

and the

*Senior*

*Public Health Inspector*

for the Year 1967



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To the Chairman and Members of the

BRADFORD AND MELKSHAM RURAL

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure to present the Annual Report on the health of the Bradford and Melksham Rural District for the year 1967.

One interesting fact revealed in this report is our steadily increasing birth rate, particularly as this is contrary to the present national trend. In these days of family planning I do not suspect that this is due to a superior fertility level in our district but the most likely explanation is a steady youthening of our population. This, of course, is brought about by an influx of young couples into our developing dormitory areas. The resulting increase in young children, so much more "at risk" than older persons, does make our present and future sewerage schemes so much more important and it is satisfying to see them going ahead in spite of the financial difficulties of Central Government.

Also in a preventative direction I am pleased to see the Councils newly formed Road Safety Committee doing such useful work. The problem of road safety is being increased in many directions in our district, not only by an increasing child population but new housing is resulting in increased pressure on our narrow roads.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and all Councillors for their help and interest in public health matters. I would also like to thank Mr. Noble and Mr. Evans for the useful advice they so readily give me.

G. WOLFENDEN.

Medical Officer of Health.



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

G. Wolfenden, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.  
who is also Medical Officer of Health to Melksham  
Urban District Council and Assistant County  
Medical Officer.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

W. A. Noble, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

D. L. Evans, M.A.P.H.I.

OFFICES:

The office of the Medical Officer of Health is 1, King Street,  
Melksham. Tel: Melksham 2307.

The office of the Senior Public Health Inspector is in  
Abbey House, Bradford-on-Avon. Tel: Bradford-on-Avon 2174

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## VITAL STATISTICS

The statistics given in this section have been mainly derived from figures kindly supplied by the Registrar General.

### GENERAL STATISTICS

The Bradford and Melksham Rural District Council area is made up of 13 parishes.

The estimated mid-year population for 1967 was 13,570 an increase over the 1966 estimate of 480.

### BIRTHS AND DEATHS

#### (a) Births

|                                      |      |               |
|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|
| Birth Rate per 1000 population ..... | 18.9 | (1966 - 16.9) |
| Adjusted for comparability .....     | 20.2 |               |
| National figure .....                | 17.2 |               |

Both the total number of births and the actual birth rate increased this year, this is against the national trend.

The Illegitimate birth rate is 35 per 1000 births this year as compared with 45 last year.

The following rates are compared with 1966 but due to the small numbers involved this comparison may well be fallacious.

|                             | 1967 | 1966                        |
|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------------|
| Still Birth Rate .....      | 12   | 19.8 per 1000 total births  |
| Infant mortality rate ..... | 20   | 9.9 per 1000 live births    |
| Neonatal mortality rate ... | 27   | 29.7 per 1000 total births. |



| Live Births       | Male | Female | Total |
|-------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Legitimate        | 134  | 113    | 247   |
| Illegitimate      | 4    | 5      | 9     |
| Total .....       | 138  | 118    | 256   |
| Totals 1966 ..... | 112  | 110    | 226   |

(b) Still Births

| Births       | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------|------|--------|-------|
| Legitimate   | 1    | 2      | 3     |
| Illegitimate | -    | -      | -     |
| Total .....  | 1    | 2      | 3     |

(c) Infant Mortality

| Births       | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------|------|--------|-------|
| Legitimate   | 3    | 1      | 4     |
| Illegitimate | -    | -      | -     |
| Total .....  | 3    | 1      | 4     |

Both infant deaths occurred under one week of age.



(d) Deaths

Deaths at all ages were 93 males and 83 females, giving a total of 176 and a death rate of 13.0 per 1000 population, showing little change from 1966 when our rate was 12.8.

Adjusted for comparability the rate becomes 10.1 per 1000, compared with the rate for England and Wales of 11.2 per 1000.

However only 76% of our deaths took place in the over 65 age group compared with 84% in 1966 - indicating an increase in deaths in the younger age groups.

(e) Causes of Death

| <u>Percentage of<br/>Total Deaths</u> |                                          | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1.14                                  | - Tuberculosis, Respiratory              | 1           | 1             | 2            |
|                                       | (Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach             | 3           | -             | 3            |
|                                       | (Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus      | 3           | 2             | 5            |
| 15.96                                 | - (Malignant Neoplasm, Breast            | -           | 3             | 3            |
|                                       | (Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus              | -           | 2             | 2            |
|                                       | (Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms   | 8           | 6             | 14           |
|                                       | (Leukaemia, Aleukaemia                   | 1           | -             | 1            |
|                                       | (Vascular Lesions of Nervous System      | 13          | 18            | 31           |
|                                       | (Coronary Disease, Angina                | 23          | 15            | 38           |
| 57.0                                  | - (Hypertension with Heart Disease       | 2           | -             | 2            |
|                                       | (Other Heart Disease                     | 12          | 12            | 24           |
|                                       | (Other Circulatory Disease               | 2           | 3             | 5            |
|                                       | (Pneumonia                               | 7           | 9             | 16           |
| 14.2                                  | - (Bronchitis                            | 8           | -             | 8            |
|                                       | (Other Disease of Respiratory System     | -           | 1             | 1            |
| 0.57                                  | - Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum          | 1           | -             | 1            |
| 7.41                                  | - Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 7           | 6             | 13           |
| 0.57                                  | - Motor Vehicle Accidents                | -           | 1             | 1            |
| 2.28                                  | - All other accidents                    | 1           | 3             | 4            |
| 0.57                                  | - Suicide                                | 1           | 1             | 2            |
|                                       |                                          | <hr/>       | <hr/>         | <hr/>        |
|                                       | Total all causes                         | 93          | 83            | 176          |
|                                       |                                          | <hr/>       | <hr/>         | <hr/>        |



## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

### (a) Notifiable Infectious Diseases

Measles was again prominent for the third year running. The cases occurred between March and August.

#### Comparison with previous years

| Disease                   | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Scarlet Fever             | 10   | -    | 1    | 1    | 1    | -    |
| Whooping Cough            | -    | 2    | -    | -    | 18   | 3    |
| Poliomyelitis - Paralytic | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Non-Paralytic             | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Measles                   | 14   | 72   | 5    | 108  | 61   | 94   |
| Diphtheria                | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Pneumonia                 | 2    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | 1    |
| Dysentery                 | 2    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Erysipelas                | -    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Meningococcal Infection   | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Salmonellosis             | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Puerperal Pyrexia         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Tuberculosis              | 1    | 1    | 1    | 2    | -    | 2    |

#### Age and Sex Distribution

| Disease        | Under 1 |   | 1 - 4 |    | 5 - 9 |    | 10 - 14 |   | 15 & Adults |   | Total |    |
|----------------|---------|---|-------|----|-------|----|---------|---|-------------|---|-------|----|
|                | M       | F | M     | F  | M     | F  | M       | F | M           | F | M     | F  |
| Measles        | 1       | 2 | 29    | 25 | 14    | 19 | -       | - | 2           | 2 | 46    | 48 |
| Whooping Cough | -       | - | 1     | -  | -     | 2  | -       | - | -           | - | 1     | 2  |
| Tuberculosis   | -       | - | -     | -  | -     | -  | 1       | - | 1           | - | 1     | -  |
| Pneumonia      | -       | - | -     | -  | -     | 1  | -       | - | -           | - | -     | 1  |
| Totals         | 1       | 2 | 30    | 25 | 14    | 22 | 1       | - | 3           | 2 | 48    | 51 |

### (b) Non-Notifiable Infectious Disease

Chicken pox which last year affected the Western half of our district spread into the Eastern half early in the year. By reports from schools, Shaw and Staverton were mainly affected.

### (c) T.B. Cases

Two new cases were notified during the year but both were infection of glands. Rehousing in neither case was required.



## HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### Hospital

This district is in the South Western Regional Hospital Board area. Two hospitals St. George's at Semington for chronic and elderly sick and Winsley Chest Hospital lie within the District. Bradford, Melksham and Trowbridge General Hospitals and, of course, the Bath Hospitals supply the general hospital facilities for the area. Most maternity cases are dealt with by Bradford and Trowbridge Maternity Hospitals.

### County Council Health Services

Domiciliary midwifery and Home Nursing Health Visitor services (care of elderly, nursing mothers and young children) and the Home Help service, are controlled by the County Council, as are the Ambulance Service, Health Education and Mental Health.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at Melksham Clinic (every Thursday afternoon) and Bradford (Youth Centre, Newtown every Tuesday afternoon) and immunisation sessions are also held at these centres.

Village Infants Clinics are held at Holt, Semington, Hilperton and Monkton Farleigh.

A service started in 1966 was Cervical Smear Clinics for early detection of cancer of the cervix. The Clinics serving this district are held at Trowbridge and Melksham Health Clinics twice a month.

### SEWERAGE

Construction work went ahead during the year on the Melksham Without and the Nestles Factory/Staverton schemes. Preliminary work, negotiations etc. for the projected Limpley Stoke scheme was virtually completed during the year and it is hoped that actual construction work will commence next year.

### WATER SUPPLIES

The North Wilts and West Wilts Water Boards and the Bath Corporation are the suppliers to the various parts of the district. Samples are tested both by ourselves and the various undertakings. All sample results were satisfactory. A new main was laid in Holt which should prevent the frequent interruptions of supplies due to bursts.

Test boring was also done at the edge of Holt by the North Wilts Water Board. As results were successful a permanent Borehole is to be constructed in the future.



## HOUSING

188 new houses were constructed during the year, slightly less than in 1966. 33 of these were built by the Council.

Assuming the Registrar General's estimate of our population increase (480) is reasonably correct and using the average occupancy rate of three persons per house we would appear to be winning the housing race.

## IMMUNISATION

The statistics for immunisation, kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health, are given below.

The figures are as usual disappointing. The percentage of babies born in 1966 who were given primary immunisation against Diphtheria up to 31.12.67 was 60.4% compared with the County average of 84.4. Most rural districts have lower figures than urban areas but Bradford and Melksham rural has the doubtful distinction this year of being the lowest of any district in Wiltshire.

About 70% of 1966 born infants were immunised against Poliomyelitis. Vaccination against Smallpox in the second year of life was slightly less than in 1966.

### POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION STATISTICS 1967

| Age Group       | 3rd Quad | 2nd Inj | 3rd inj. or 4th Quad | 4th Inj | 3 oral doses | 2 orals after 2 inj | 4th Oral after 3 Inj. or 3 Oral |
|-----------------|----------|---------|----------------------|---------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1967            | -        | -       | -                    | -       | 77           | -                   | -                               |
| 1966            | -        | -       | -                    | -       | 91           | -                   | 38                              |
| 1965            | -        | -       | -                    | -       | 7            | -                   | 44                              |
| 1964            | -        | -       | -                    | -       | 3            | -                   | 8                               |
| 1963            | -        | -       | -                    | -       | 5            | -                   | 7                               |
| 1952 - 1962     | -        | -       | -                    | -       | 29           | -                   | 100                             |
| Others under 16 | -        | -       | -                    | -       | -            | -                   | 7                               |
| Others over 16  | -        | -       | -                    | -       | 4            | -                   | 1                               |
| Totals          | -        | -       | -                    | -       | 216          | -                   | 205                             |



# IMMUNISATION AND SMALLPOX VACCINATION STATISTICS 1967

| Year of Birth                                 |      | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962-58 | 1952-57 | Others<br>Under 16 |
|-----------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| Primary inms<br>completed<br>during 1967      | Diph | 84   | 86   | 2    | 2    | -    | 3       | -       | -                  |
|                                               | Wh/c | 84   | 84   | 2    | 2    | -    | -       | -       | -                  |
|                                               | Tet  | 84   | 86   | 2    | 2    | -    | 4       | -       | -                  |
| Reinf. Injects<br>administered<br>during 1967 | Diph | -    | 44   | 89   | 21   | 7    | 105     | 2       | -                  |
|                                               | Wh/c | -    | 35   | 59   | 12   | 4    | 30      | 1       | -                  |
|                                               | Tet  | -    | 44   | 89   | 21   | 7    | 106     | 4       | 3                  |

| Age Group       | <u>Months</u> |     |     |      | <u>Years</u> |     |      |
|-----------------|---------------|-----|-----|------|--------------|-----|------|
|                 | 0-3           | 3-6 | 6-9 | 9-12 | 1            | 2-4 | 5-15 |
| Vaccinations    | -             | -   | -   | 4    | 72           | 17  | 3    |
| Re-Vaccinations | -             | -   | -   | -    | -            | -   | 21   |



REPORT  
of the  
SENIOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

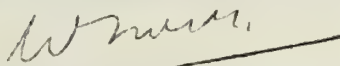
I have pleasure in presenting my twentieth Annual Report to this Council.

During 1967, routine work has continued. The shovel tractor brought into use at the refuse tip last year has given excellent service but to keep all refuse covered at all times is just impossible. Unfortunately, we had a tip fire at the end of the year. The Wiltshire Fire Brigade were most helpful in our endeavours to limit the spread.

I would ask the Chairman and Members of the Council and Committees to accept my sincere gratitude for their guidance and consideration. My thanks are also due to Dr. Wolfenden for his co-operation and to Mr. Evans and Mrs. Hanney for assistance so willingly given. The Rodent Operator and the Refuse Collection and Disposal Staff have continued their duties to the obvious satisfaction of house-holders in the District.

I have the honour to be Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,



Senior Public Health Inspector

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STAFF

Additional Public  
Health Inspector

Mr. D. L. Evans

Clerk/Typist

Mrs. J. Hanney

Rodent Operator

Mr. A. H. Hart

Refuse Collection

Mr. J. H. Goodenough (Foreman/Driver)

Mr. W. E. Jones (Driver from 12th June, 1967)

Mr. R. J. Humphries (Loader/Relief Driver from  
24th September, 1967)

Mr. P. Sutherland

Mr. F. G. Hall

Mr. S. G. Wilcox (from 10th April, 1967)

Mr. R. C. Trott (from 1st May, 1967)

Tip Operator

Mr. P. J. Andrews (from 26th October, 1967)



# MEAT AND FOODS

|                            | Number | Inspections | Notices<br>Served | Notices<br>Complied<br>With |
|----------------------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Slaughterhouses... ..      | 2      | 425         | -                 | -                           |
| Butcher's Shops... ..      | 1      | 2           | -                 | -                           |
| Catering Establishments... | 14     | 14          | 1                 | -                           |
| Food Shops ... ..          | 44     | 154         | 3                 | 3                           |
| Schools... ..              | 15     | 14          | 1                 | -                           |
| Licensed Premises ... ..   | 33     | 54          | 1                 | 1                           |
| Licensed Slaughtermen ...  | 3      | -           | -                 | -                           |
| Licensed Game Premises ... | 1      | 1           | -                 | 1                           |

Note - It will be noticed throughout this report that, on occasion, more notices are shown as "complied with" than "served". This is explained by work requested in 1966 being completed in 1967.

The two private slaughterhouses have continued in operation during the year (animals slaughtered and condemnations figures are shown in Appendix "A"). Each slaughterhouse has a stunning pen and complies with the Hygiene and Prevention of Cruelty Regulations.

The carcase and offal of every animal is inspected.

I would particularly mention that of the 29 carcasses affected with tuberculosis, 27 were animals sent into the slaughterhouse by the Ministry as reactors to the tuberculin test.

During the year, complaints were received about a piece of glass in a loaf of bread, a nylon strand in a bun and some black particles in a bottle of milk. Each case was thoroughly investigated and ready co-operation was obtained from the manufacturers. The Council decided not to institute legal proceedings.

Considerable improvements have been obtained under the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

There is one premises where poultry are processed within this district. Approximately 30,000 broilers, hens, turkeys, geese and game are killed, plucked and drawn. Three visits have been made to the premises during the year. Unthrifty birds are rejected by the proprietor. It is obviously impossible for the Council's staff to examine the birds killed but we feel satisfied with the conditions and that the proprietor would reject any diseased bird to preserve his high class trade.

As mentioned in previous Annual Reports, we have a modest routine of sampling pies, ham, fish cakes, etc. for Bacteriological examination.

The results for the year are as follows:-



| <u>Nature of Sample</u>       | <u>No. of Samples</u> | <u>No. of Satisfactory<br/>Samples</u> | <u>No. Showing High<br/>Colony Count</u> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Polony                        | 2                     | 2                                      | -                                        |
| Faggot                        | 2                     | 2                                      | -                                        |
| Sliced Lamb in Mint Sauce     | 1                     | 1                                      | -                                        |
| Steak & Kidney Pie            | 2                     | 2                                      | -                                        |
| Peeled Prawns                 | 1                     | 1                                      | -                                        |
| Potted Beef with Butter       | 1                     | 1                                      | -                                        |
| Double Devon Cream            | 1                     | 1                                      | -                                        |
| Fish Cake                     | 4                     | 1                                      | 3                                        |
| Pork Pie                      | 2                     | 2                                      | -                                        |
| Steak'n Kidney-burgers        | 1                     | -                                      | 1                                        |
| Chocolate Mousse              | 1                     | -                                      | 1                                        |
| Beefburgers                   | 1                     | -                                      | 1                                        |
| Cornish Pasty                 | 2                     | 2                                      | -                                        |
| Creamed Macaroni Milk Pudding | 1                     | 1                                      | -                                        |
| Sliced Ham                    | 1                     | 1                                      | -                                        |
| Steaklets                     | 5                     | 1                                      | 4                                        |
| Dairy Cream Trifle            | 5                     | 4                                      | 1                                        |
| Rissoles                      | 2                     | 1                                      | 1                                        |
| Potted Shrimps                | 1                     | 1                                      | -                                        |
| Buttered Kipper Fillets       | 1                     | 1                                      | -                                        |
| Sliced Beef in Gravy          | 2                     | -                                      | 2                                        |
| Braised Beef Slices in Gravy  | 1                     | 1                                      | -                                        |

The whole question of high colony counts is being considered on a national basis by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

#### ICE-CREAM

|                                            | Number | Inspections | Notices<br>Served | Notices<br>Complied<br>With |
|--------------------------------------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Retailers ... ..                           | 37     | 110         | -                 | -                           |
| Manufacturers ... ..                       | -      | -           | -                 | -                           |
| Total number of Samples - Ice-cream ... .. |        |             |                   | 65                          |
| Iced-lollies ... ..                        |        |             |                   | 29                          |

#### Percentage of Samples

| Grade I | Grade I or II | Grade III | Grade IV |
|---------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| 100%    | -             | -         | -        |

The Public Health Laboratory Service suggests that 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade I, 80% into Grade I or II, no more than 20% into Grade III and none into Grade IV.



# MILK AND DAIRIES

|                                             | Number | Inspections | Notices<br>Served | Notices<br>Complied<br>With |
|---------------------------------------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dairies ... ..                              | 1)     |             |                   |                             |
| Distributors... ..                          | 4)     |             |                   |                             |
| Dairymen operating from<br>outside district | 15)    | 93          | -                 | -                           |
| Producer/Retailers ... ..                   | 2)     |             |                   |                             |

## Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

|                                                                  |   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| "Untreated" Dealers Licences ... ..                              | 1 |
| Dealers (Pre-packed milk) Licences for "Untreated" Milk ... ..   | 0 |
| Dealers (Pre-packed milk) Licences for "Pasteurised" Milk ... .. | 5 |
| Dealers (Pre-packed milk) Licences for "Sterilised" Milk ... ..  | 3 |

Set out below are the sample results of "designated" milk.

|                                                                                |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Number of "Untreated" Milk Samples ... ..                                      | 24 |
| Number of Satisfactory "Untreated" Milk Samples ... ..                         | 24 |
| Number of "Pasteurised" Milk Samples ... ..                                    | 40 |
| Number of Satisfactory "Pasteurised" Milk Samples ... ..                       | 40 |
| Number of "Pasteurised (Channel Islands)" Milk Samples ... ..                  | 20 |
| Number of Satisfactory "Pasteurised (Channel Islands)" Milk Samples ... ..     | 20 |
| Number of "Sterilised" Milk Samples ... ..                                     | 4  |
| Number of Satisfactory "Sterilised" Milk Samples ... ..                        | 4  |
| Number of Biological Samples for Tubercle Bacillus and Brucella Abortus ... .. | 9  |
| Number of Satisfactory Biological Samples for Tubercle Bacillus ... ..         | 9  |
| Number of Satisfactory Biological Samples for Brucella Abortus ... ..          | 9  |

May I just emphasise that we did not have a single milk sample failure.

# WATER

|                                                                  |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of Public Water Supplies in the District ... ..           | 7   |
| Number of Bacteriological Samples obtained during 1967 ... ..    | 36  |
| Number of Samples taken for Chemical Analysis during 1967 ... .. | Nil |

Appendix "B" of this report sets out the sample results for the year.

I am not in a position to give, with any degree of accuracy, the number of houses and the population in each parish supplied from public water mains direct to houses or by means of standpipes. None of the water supplies appear to be liable to plumbo-solvent action.



## FACTORIES

|                                | Number | Inspections | Notices<br>Served | Notices<br>Complied<br>With |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Factories with power ... ..    | 23)    |             |                   |                             |
| Factories without power ... .. | 1)     | 38          | 4                 | 4                           |
| Outworkers ... ..              | 1      | -           | -                 | -                           |

The requirements of the Factories Act, 1937 appear to be complied with and full details, as required by the Ministry, are mentioned in Appendix "C".

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

|                         | Number | Inspections | Notices<br>Served | Notices<br>Complied<br>With |
|-------------------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Site Licences ... ..    | 15     | 57          | -                 | -                           |
| Licences Refused ... .. | -      | -           | -                 | -                           |

It is pleasing to report that no complaints have been received during the year regarding gypsies at Norrington Common.

All sites, licensed by the Council, have been inspected to ensure compliance with the licence conditions relating to number of caravans, water supply, sanitary accommodation, disposal of waste water, paths, fire extinguisher and refuse bin.

All the sites are small (the largest having nine caravans).

## RODENT CONTROL

Details, in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are given in Appendix "D".

The Rodent Operator has continued with routine inspections. We now have 8 farms contracts for which a fixed charge is made, each farm is visited every 4 months and the necessary treatments are carried out. Three business premises have similar contracts with us for regular inspection and treatment.

Sewers were test baited at Shaw and Whitley, Westwood and Winsley. There were "no takes".

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly collection throughout the District is maintained with a limited service for some trade refuse.



The Council operate two Fore and Aft Tipping refuse lorries and, by the employment of an additional loader, we have coped with the increased refuse resulting from new houses and estates. The maintenance costs to our older lorry have been rather heavy and include a re-conditioned engine amounting to £285 - 0 - 0. It is fair to say that our lorries have to work really hard.

In July, a report was submitted to the Council with a recommendation to:-

- (1) Consider a bonus scheme related to the number of bins
- (2) Invite a firm to show a film and demonstrate the paper sack system
- (3) Institute a pilot scheme for paper sack collection.

From days spent on the refuse lorries, I felt that the men are working very hard and well.

The Council are now considering a review of the service and the financial implications of joining in a joint incineration scheme for disposal.

#### SALVAGE

During the year, the following items of salvage have been sold:-

|                    | <u>Weight</u> |      |     |     | <u>Approx. Value</u> |           |          |
|--------------------|---------------|------|-----|-----|----------------------|-----------|----------|
|                    | Tons          | Cwts | Qrs | Lbs | £                    | s.        | d.       |
| Wools ... ..       | -             | 9    | 3   | 22  | 46                   | 8         | 4        |
| Rags ... ..        | 3             | 8    | 1   | 14  | 34                   | 3         | 9        |
| Waste Paper ... .. | 6             | 4    | 3   | 0   | 40                   | 10        | 10       |
| Scrap Metal ... .. | 10            | 8    | 2   | 24  | 203                  | 14        | 5        |
| TOTAL              |               |      |     |     | <u>£324</u>          | <u>17</u> | <u>4</u> |

#### CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

This service, brought into operation in 1948, has been utilised to clear 428 cesspools and septic tanks during 1967.

The Contractors, employed by the Council, visit the District every three months and it has been useful to many householders to have a standing order for such clearances with the Council.

The service has grown from 75 clearances in 1948 to 428 clearances in 1967.



## HOUSING

|                                                                                          |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Number of houses inspected and recorded ... ..                                           | 11 |
| Number of houses suitable for action under<br>Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 ... .. | 11 |
| Number of houses suitable for action under<br>Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957 ... ..  | -  |
| Number of Demolition Orders issued ... ..                                                | 6  |
| Number of Closing Orders issued ... ..                                                   | 3  |
| Number of Undertakings accepted under<br>Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 ... ..      | 1  |
| Number of notices under Section 9 of the<br>Housing Act, 1957 ... ..                     | -  |

The Council's policy is to formally deal with dwellings which were placed in Category IV in the Housing Survey and similarly to deal with properties becoming vacant where re-letting might provide a "stepping-stone" to Council re-housing. The policy has been pursued through the year and 11 cottages have been so formally reported to the Public Health Committee as suitable for action under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957. Every endeavour is made to persuade owners to undertake re-conditioning schemes and to take advantage of Improvement Grants.

During the year 8 cottages were demolished and 13 reconditioned.

10 Discretionary Grants (total £3,730 - 0 - 0) and 22 Standard Grants (total £3,913 - 15 - 0) under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1958 have been approved during 1967. Some considerable discussion and inspections are a preliminary to such applications but the work is well justified by the results.

No applications have been made during the year for Certificate of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

|                                                  |     |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of Inspections ... ..                     | 184 |
| Number of informal notices served ... ..         | 3   |
| Number of statutory notices served ... ..        | Nil |
| Number of informal notices complied with ... ..  | 3   |
| Number of statutory notices complied with ... .. | Nil |



## RIVERS, STREAMS AND SEWERAGE

Of the thirteen parishes (Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Hilperton, Holt Melksham Without - Spa Road, Semington Road, Berryfield, Shaw and Whitley -, Westwood and Winsley) now have sewerage systems and further schemes are envisaged by the Council. Throughout the district informal action has been taken to prevent pollution of streams and water courses, but sewer ditches continue to be a problem.

## SWIMMING BATHS

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public in this area. Various samples and some advisory work was undertaken for private pools at schools in the district.

## ABANDONED CARS

The Council have removed 3 abandoned cars and are always willing to accept old unwanted vehicles (from this district) at Beanacre Tip.

## CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

The following are condensed results of smoke observations during 1967.

### Smoke Observations

| <u>Premises</u> | <u>1965</u> |          | <u>1966</u> |          | <u>1967</u>  |             |              |             |              |              |              |             | <u>Percentage of Compliance with Regulations</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------|
|                 | <u>C</u>    | <u>N</u> | <u>C</u>    | <u>N</u> | <u>Jan.-</u> | <u>Mar.</u> | <u>Apr.-</u> | <u>Jun.</u> | <u>Jul.-</u> | <u>Sept.</u> | <u>Oct.-</u> | <u>Dec.</u> |                                                  |
|                 | <u>C</u>    | <u>N</u> | <u>C</u>    | <u>N</u> | <u>C</u>     | <u>N</u>    | <u>C</u>     | <u>N</u>    | <u>C</u>     | <u>N</u>     | <u>C</u>     | <u>N</u>    |                                                  |
| A               | 11          | 1        | 11          | 1        | 3            | 0           | 4            | 0           | 2            | 0            | 3            | 0           | 100%                                             |
| B               | 12          | 0        | 12          | 0        | 3            | 0           | 4            | 0           | 2            | 0            | 3            | 0           | 100%                                             |
| C               | 12          | 0        | 12          | 0        | 3            | 0           | 4            | 0           | 2            | 0            | 3            | 0           | 100%                                             |
| D               | 12          | 0        | 12          | 0        | 3            | 0           | 4            | 0           | 2            | 0            | 3            | 0           | 100%                                             |
| E               | 12          | 0        | 12          | 0        | 3            | 0           | 4            | 0           | 2            | 0            | 3            | 0           | 100%                                             |
| F               | 11          | 1        | 11          | 1        | 3            | 0           | 4            | 0           | 2            | 0            | 3            | 0           | 100%                                             |
| G               | 12          | 0        | 12          | 0        | 3            | 0           | 4            | 0           | 2            | 0            | 3            | 0           | 100%                                             |
| H               | -           | -        | 12          | 0        | 3            | 0           | 4            | 0           | 2            | 0            | 3            | 0           | 100%                                             |
| TOTAL           | 82          | 2        | 94          | 2        | 24           | 0           | 32           | 0           | 16           | 0            | 24           | 0           |                                                  |

"C" indicates compliance with the Clean Air Act and the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958. "N" indicates non-compliance.



These excellent results have been obtained by co-operation with industrialists and hospital managements. No formal action has ever been necessary under the 1956 Act.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

[illegible]

Two informal samples (one of woollen mixture felt and one of rag flock) were obtained. Both samples satisfied the requirements of the Regulations.

## ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

|                             |        |   |
|-----------------------------|--------|---|
| Number of Premises Licensed | ... .. | 5 |
| Number of Visits            | ... .. | 7 |

We are grateful to the local Inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. for advice and guidance.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

So far, we have not found it necessary to serve any notices under the Act and it seems to me that, as far as the provisions enforceable by local authorities are concerned, the type of farm in this area does not provide difficulties.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

Endeavours were made to persuade the person from continuing to operate the one premises boiling swill for pig feeding in this district. We did not succeed in eliminating this practice, which is generally considered to be fraught with danger. Conditions at the premises are reasonable and special visits were made during the foot and mouth outbreak in other parts of the country.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

This is now just another routine matter.

Appendix "E" sets out the position as required by the Ministry.

## NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

No complaints have been received during the year and no action has been necessary under the terms of the Act.



## LAND DRAINAGE ACT, 1961

No formal action has been necessary during the year.

## PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

I would like to make special mention of the very good service given to this Council by Dr. Mann and the Public Health Laboratory at Manor Hospital, Bath. All our milk, ice-cream and water samples are given prompt attention and it is of very great assistance to have Dr. Mann's advice so readily available.

## GENERAL

The following visits have been made in connection with miscellaneous items requiring attention:-

|                                                  |     |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Drainage ... ..                                  | 402 |
| Water Supply ... ..                              | 56  |
| Salvage ... ..                                   | 5   |
| Miscellaneous Housing Visits and Small Dwellings |     |
| Acquisition Act enquiries ... ..                 | 476 |
| Refuse Collection and Disposal ... ..            | 465 |
| Rodent Control ... ..                            | 27  |
| Abandoned Cars ... ..                            | 31  |



# APPENDIX "A"

## CARCASE AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

|                                                                                                                | Cattle<br>excluding<br>Cows | Cows  | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Number killed                                                                                                  | 500                         | 1,819 | 620    | 67                    | 40   | -      |
| Number inspected                                                                                               | 500                         | 1,819 | 620    | 67                    | 40   | -      |
| <u>All disease except<br/>Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</u>                                                    |                             |       |        |                       |      |        |
| Whole carcasses<br>condemned                                                                                   | 2                           | 25    | 18     | 3                     | -    | -      |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned                                                       | 88                          | 863   | 30     | 8                     | 3    | -      |
| Percentage of the<br>number inspected<br>affected with<br>disease other than<br>Tuberculosis and<br>Cysticerci | 18.0                        | 48.8  | 7.7    | 16.4                  | 7.5  | -      |
| <u>Tuberculosis only</u>                                                                                       |                             |       |        |                       |      |        |
| Whole carcasses<br>condemned                                                                                   | -                           | 2     | -      | -                     | -    | -      |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned                                                       | 7                           | 20    | -      | -                     | -    | -      |
| Percentage of the<br>number inspected<br>affected with<br>Tuberculosis                                         | 1.4                         | 1.21  | -      | -                     | -    | -      |
| <u>Cysticercosis</u>                                                                                           |                             |       |        |                       |      |        |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned                                                       | -                           | 2     | -      | -                     | -    | -      |
| Carcases submitted to<br>treatment by<br>refrigeration                                                         | -                           | 2     | -      | -                     | -    | -      |
| Generalised and totally<br>condemned                                                                           | -                           | 1     | -      | -                     | -    | -      |



# APPENDIX "B"

## BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLE RESULTS, 1967

| Name of Supply                                 | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May. | Jun. | Jul. | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Remarks                                    |
|------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--------------------------------------------|
| Bath City (Combe Down) Supply                  | S(2) | -    | -    | S(2) | -    | S(2) | -    | -    | S(2) | -    | -    | -    | Chlorinated Supply                         |
| North Wilts Water Board<br>(Holt Supply)       | S(1) | -    | -    | S(1) | -    | S(1) | -    | -    | S(1) | -    | -    | -    | Chlorinated Supply                         |
| North Wilts Water Board<br>(Chippenham Supply) | S(3) | -    | -    | S(3) | -    | S(3) | -    | -    | S(3) | -    | -    | -    | Chlorinated Supply                         |
| Turleigh Troughs Supply                        | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | Warning Notice<br>fixed in August,<br>1949 |
| West Wilts Water Board                         | S(1) | -    | -    | S(1) | -    | S(1) | -    | -    | S(1) | -    | -    | -    | Chlorinated Supply                         |
| Estate Supply                                  | S(1) | -    | -    | S(1) | -    | S(1) | -    | -    | S(1) | -    | -    | -    | Chlorinated Supply                         |
| Estate Supply                                  | S(1) | -    | -    | S(1) | -    | S(1) | -    | -    | S(1) | -    | -    | -    | Main water fed to<br>Estate Reservoir      |

Note - S denotes satisfactory result. U denotes unsatisfactory result due to the presence of faecal coli. (Number) denotes number of samples obtained during the month.



# APPENDIX "C"

## FACTORIES

| Inspections                                                                                           | Number on Register | Inspections | Written Notices            | Occupiers Prosecuted |                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| (1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are enforced by Local Authority (non power) ... ..   | 1                  | 1           | -                          | -                    |                                                        |
| (2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (power) ... ..    | 23                 | 37          | 3                          | -                    |                                                        |
| (3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworker's premises) | -                  | -           | -                          | -                    |                                                        |
| Defects                                                                                               | Found              | Remedied    | Referred to H.M. Inspector | by H.M. Inspector    | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..                                                                      | -                  | -           | -                          | -                    | -                                                      |
| Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..                                                                             | -                  | -           | -                          | -                    | -                                                      |
| Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)...                                                                     | -                  | -           | -                          | -                    | -                                                      |
| Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ...                                                                      | -                  | -           | -                          | -                    | -                                                      |
| Drainage of Floors (S.6) ... ..                                                                       | -                  | -           | -                          | -                    | -                                                      |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)                                                                           |                    |             |                            |                      |                                                        |
| (a) Insufficient ... ..                                                                               | 1                  | 2           | -                          | 1                    | -                                                      |
| (b) Unsuitable or Defective...                                                                        | 3                  | 2           | -                          | -                    | -                                                      |
| (c) Not Separate for Sexes ...                                                                        | -                  | -           | -                          | -                    | -                                                      |



# APPENDIX "D"

## ANNUAL REPORT ON RATS AND MICE

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Year ended 31st December, 1967

### PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

- 1) Number of properties in district
- 2) a Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification
  - b Number infested by (i) Rats
  - (ii) Mice
- 3) a Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification
  - b Number infested by (i) Rats
  - (ii) Mice

| TYPE OF PROPERTY     |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| NON-<br>AGRICULTURAL | AGRICULTURAL |
| 4,641                | 220          |
| 226                  | 1            |
| 103                  | 1            |
| 14                   | -            |
| 116                  | 11           |
| 110                  | 10           |
| 2                    | -            |



# APPENDIX "E"

## THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

| TABLE<br>A<br><br>Registrations<br>and<br>General<br>Inspections | Class of Premises                                       | Number of premises<br>newly registered<br>during the year | Total number of<br>registered premises<br>at end of year | Number of registered<br>premises receiving one or<br>more general inspections<br>during the year |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                  | (1)                                                     | (2)                                                       | (3)                                                      | (4)                                                                                              |
|                                                                  | Offices                                                 | 1                                                         | 5                                                        | 5                                                                                                |
|                                                                  | Retail Shops                                            | -                                                         | 7                                                        | 6                                                                                                |
|                                                                  | Wholesale shops, warehouses                             | -                                                         | -                                                        | -                                                                                                |
|                                                                  | Catering Establishments open<br>to the public, canteens | -                                                         | 6                                                        | 4                                                                                                |
|                                                                  | Fuel Storage Depots                                     | -                                                         | -                                                        | -                                                                                                |
|                                                                  | TOTALS                                                  | 1                                                         | 18                                                       | 15                                                                                               |

TABLE B - Number of visits of all kinds (including general inspections) to Registered Premises

16

| TABLE<br>C<br><br>Analysis by workplace<br>of persons employed in<br>Registered premises at<br>end of year | Class of workplace                         | Number of persons employed |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                                                                                                            | (1)                                        | (2)                        |
|                                                                                                            | Offices                                    | 17                         |
|                                                                                                            | Retail Shops                               | 18                         |
|                                                                                                            | Wholesale departments, warehouses          | -                          |
|                                                                                                            | Catering establishments open to the public | 37                         |
|                                                                                                            | Canteens                                   | -                          |
|                                                                                                            | Fuel storage depots                        | -                          |
|                                                                                                            | TOTAL                                      | 72                         |
|                                                                                                            | Total Males                                | 30                         |
|                                                                                                            | Total Females                              | 42                         |





